Justice Reinvestment Advisory Board



Subject: January 2020 Meeting Minutes

Date: January 7, 2020

10:30 A.M.

Board members:

Anthony Washington, Nichocal Katz, Toni Holness, Christine Celeste, Michele Hughes, Ben Pearlman, Caryn York

Guests: Marsha Briley (DPSCS), Carolyn Scurggs (DPSCS), Albert Turner (HPRP), Keith Roys (representing Bill Gaertner), Chris & Darrell (JOTF)

Absent: Gerald Stansbury, Trisha Gentle, Bill Gaertner, Valerie Barnes

The Governor's Office of Crime Control & Prevention: Daniel Atzmon, Andy Baranauskus, Heather Amador, Ashely Richards

Welcome

Meeting began at 10:30am with introductions. Minutes from the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Updates

A brief update was shared regarding the Oversight Board's Restitution Report which was expected to be shared at the January 14 Oversight Board meeting. At the January 14 Oversight Board meeting, members decided to revisit at the Board's Spring meeting to allow more time for review and discussion. A Restitution Workgroup was reconstituted and GOCCP given approval to hire a Restitution Coordinator.

Daniel presented updates on the Performance Incentive Grant Fund and shared that GOCCP

expects awards to be announced publicly following the 1/14 Oversight Board meeting. Daniel discussed the GOCCP grant process and will share grantee information and the funding award breakdown once the decisions are finalized.

Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) Updates and Q&A

Assistant Secretary Scruggs and Marsha Briley introduced themselves and the new office within DPSCS they now represent. They discussed how DPSCS can assist with expungement and related materials and support and noted a pending reorganization through which responsibility for expungement will move to their office. They are interested in bringing in external partners to enhance services. As the office is new and changes are pending updates at future meetings will be forthcoming.

Expungements

Members discussed prior proposals to expand and automate access to expungementments.

Victims' concerns were discussed, specifically around domestic violence and other family based crimes, and issues regarding second degree assault. More information on coding assault calls for family violence flags would be helpful. GOCCP will also provide DPSCS with information on Abuser Intervention Programs. There was also a discussion of immigrant concerns and a waiver process. A similar waiver question arose regarding the Department of Juvenile Services.

Members recognized the importance of identifying impacts on other laws, including gun restrictions as well as the need for additional input from other partners including the AG's office, prosecutors, public defenders, and the courts. A CJIS presentation was also requested which may help address questions regarding data and records retention.

Closing Thoughts and Next Steps

Members are interested in continuing to work on the expungement question and there was consensus on forming a workgroup to investigate ways to expand expungement access while addressing the concerns of victims, immigrants and other key stakeholders.

Due to the upcoming General Assembly Session, members decided meet next in April at which point scheduling will be easier and new legislation that may be related can be considered.